

English

A Moratorium on Nord Stream 2

Appeal to the Federal Government and to the Democratic Parties in Germany

Dear Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are reaching out to you to urge that you declare an immediate moratorium on the natural gas pipeline Nord Stream 2. There are many reasons for this step. Nord Stream 2

- undermines European cohesion and transatlantic relations;
- conflicts with the new European and German climate goals;
- threatens the already precarious security of Ukraine and
- runs counter to the aim of a common EU external energy policy.

The Nord Stream 2 project was controversial right from the start. The agreements were signed shortly after the annexation of Crimea and the Russian intervention in eastern Ukraine.

The undeclared war against Ukraine continues, while the crackdown on democratic civil society in Russia grows ever more oppressive. There has also been a whole series of attacks on the liberal democracies of the West. The hopes for “Wandel durch Handel” (change through trade) have not been realised.

Nord Stream 2 is also out of step with current climate policy. The biggest fossil-fuel infrastructure project in Europe, it is intended to lock in the import of natural gas from the Arctic regions of Russia for decades to come. Yet if it is to meet its climate goals, the EU must start reducing natural gas consumption during the present decade.

Nord Stream 2 is not necessary for the energy security of Germany or of the EU. The capacities of existing continental pipelines are sufficient to meet future needs. The new pipeline is primarily a geopolitical project aimed at cutting Ukraine and Poland out of gas transit equation. This is not an aim that the Federal Government should endorse.

Moreover, Nord Stream 2 is completely at odds with the EU's declared aim of diversifying the European natural gas supply and breaking up monopolistic structures.

This project is fomenting discord and distrust within the European Community at a time when the ability to take collective action is crucial. Last but not least, Nord Stream 2 is an obstacle to a "fresh start" in transatlantic relations, which is well overdue.

For these reasons, we call upon the Federal Government to immediately impose a moratorium on Nord Stream 2 to allow for serious political dialogue. After putting Nord Stream 2 on hold, the American sanctions ought to be suspended.

Specifically, a moratorium should be used to

- clarify the strategic implications of Nord Stream 2 – particularly with respect to the security of Ukraine and of the EU's eastern member states;
- undertake a detailed life cycle assessment of the project and have its climate impacts examined by an independent body;
- push forward with a common European energy policy;
- resolve the transatlantic differences relating to Nord Stream 2 and
- discuss principal issues of controversy between the EU and the Kremlin and reassess Nord Stream 2 in that light of this discussion.

A moratorium for Nord Stream 2 offers a way out of a muddled political situation. It represents a chance to arrive at a common European position. Lastly, and importantly, a moratorium would serve as a clear signal to the Russian leadership that they must expect consequences to ensue from t

continuing violations of international law and of the rules upon which the European order is based.

Please do not to let this chance slip away.

Signatories

Laima Liucija Andrikiienė, Member of Parliament, Lithuania

Juri Andruchowytsch, Writer, Ukraine

Natalia Arno, Free Russia Foundation, USA

Timothy Garton Ash, Professor at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Anders Åslund, Atlantic Council, Sweden

Audronius Ažubalis, Member of Parliament, Lithuania

Rainer Baake, Climate Neutrality Foundation, Germany

Margarita M. Balmaceda, Professor at the Seton Hall University, USA

Marieluise Beck, Zentrum Liberale Moderne, Germany

Jerzy Buzek, Former Prime Minister, Member of the European Parliament, Poland

Emily Channell-Justice, Harvard University, USA

Sławomir Dębski, The Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), Poland

Larry Diamond, Stanford University, USA

Peter B. Doran, Former President of the Center for European Policy Analysis,
USA

Bas Eickhout, Member of the European Parliament, Netherlands

Michael Emerson, Centre for European Policy Studies; Former EU
Ambassador to Russia, Belgium

Pavel Fischer, Senator, Czech Republic

Roland Freudenstein, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies,
Germany

Ralf Fücks, Zentrum Liberale Moderne, Germany

Francis Fukuyama, Professor at the Stanford University, USA

Anthony Giddens, King's College Cambridge, United Kingdom

Sven Giegold, Member of the European Parliament, Germany

Hanna Gill-Piątek, Member of Parliament, Poland

Paul Grod, Ukrainian World Congress, Canada

Rebecca Harms, Former Member of the European Parliament, Germany

Pavel Havlicek, Association for International Affairs, Czech Republic

Paulina Hennig-Kloska, Member of Parliament, Poland

John Herbst, Atlantic Council; former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, USA

Ben Hodges, Former Commanding General U.S. Army Europe, USA

Toomas Hendrik Ilves, Former President, Estonia

Jakub Janda, European Values Center for Security Policy, Czech Republic

Laurynas Kasčiūnas, Member of Parliament, Lithuania

Jonathan Katz, German Marshall Fund, USA

James Kirchick, Brookings Institution, USA

Jakub Klepal, Forum 2000, Czech Republic

Pavlo Klimkin, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ukraine

Petr Kolář, Former ambassador of the Czech Republic to the USA and Russia,
Czech Republic

John Kornblum, Former U.S. Ambassador to Germany, USA

Marcin Korolec, Former Minister of Environment, President of COP19, Poland

Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Member of the European Parliament, Poland

Peter Kreko, Political Capital Institute, Hungary

Sergey Lagodinsky, Member of the European Parliament, Germany

Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, Friedrich Naumann Foundation;
Former Federal Minister of Justice, Germany

Miriam Lexmann, Member of the European Parliament, Slovakia

John Lough, Chatham House, United Kingdom

Edward Lucas, Center for European Policy Analysis, United Kingdom

Arminas Lydeka, Member of Parliament, Lithuania

Michael McFaul, FSI Institute for International Studies; Former
U.S. Ambassador to Russia, USA

Markus Meckel, Former Foreign Minister of the GDR, Germany

James D. Melville Jr., Former U.S. Ambassador to Estonia, USA

Marie Mendras, Sciences Po, France

Vladimir Milov, Former Deputy Minister of Energy, Russian Federation

Radvilė Morkūnaitė-Mikulėnienė, Member of Parliament, Lithuania

Sascha Müller-Kraenner, Deutsche Umwelthilfe (DUH), Germany

Jutta Paulus, Member of the European Parliament, Germany

Žygimantas Pavilionis, Member of Parliament, Lithuania

Tomasz Peszyński, Pulse of Europe, Czech Republic

Steven Pifer, Former Deputy Assistant Secretary and U.S. Ambassador to
Ukraine, USA

Ruprecht Polenz, German Association for East European Studies (DGO),
Former Member of Parliament, Germany

Jana Puglierin, European Council on Foreign Relations, Germany

Janusz Reiter, Former Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to Germany and
the USA, Poland

Adam Daniel Rotfeld, Former Foreign Minister, Poland

Manfred Sapper, Journal “Osteuropa” (Eastern Europe), Germany

András Simonyi, Former Hungarian Ambassador to the USA, Hungary

Karl Schlögel, Eastern European historian and publicist, Germany

Benjamin L. Schmitt, Harvard University, USA

Constanze Stelzenmüller, The Brookings Institution, Germany

Mirosław Suchoń, Member of Parliament, Poland

Paul J. Sullivan, Johns Hopkins University, USA

Giedrius Surplys, Member of Parliament, Lithuania

Oleksandr Sushko, International Renaissance Foundation, Ukraine

Nicolas Tenzer, CERAP – France; Guest professor at the Sciences Po, France

Ellen Ueberschär, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Germany

Tom van der Lee, Member of Parliament, Netherlands

Alexander Vershbow, Former Deputy Secretary General of NATO; Former U.S. Ambassador to Russia, USA

Kenneth R. Weinstein, Hudson Institute, USA

Heinrich August Winkler, Historian, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany

Marie L. Yovanovitch, Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, USA

Jan Zielonka, Professor at the University of Oxford and Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Netherlands

Emanuelis Zingeris, Member of Parliament, Lithuania

[Imprint](#) [Privacy Policy](#)

© 2021 Zentrum Liberale Moderne | Powered by Responsive Theme